

May 9, 1975

PRESIDENT: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President, members of the body. While I agree with the fact that perhaps the budget should be cut, I think 10% is perhaps unrealistic. What he's doing is taking \$5 million off of state aid. That's going to put it directly on the property tax, if he's doing this all the way through. I think there is an amendment that would bring this down to about 3% and not touch human surfaces, this type thing. I can support that. I really couldn't support the 10% cut because I don't think that would rational thing to do at the present time. Three percent would save us about \$8 to \$10 million. This I could go for. I couldn't go to cut state aid by 10% and some of these other things that would really put it right back on the property tax.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes, do you care to close on your motion?

SENATOR KEYES: Senator Barnett, I'm closing now. The corporate tax would make up, so that we would not have increased taxes above 2 1/2 and 11. The corporate tax ... if we wanted to operate this state efficiently ... I think, Senator Clark, let's just set on the schools just a minute. I have always voted for state aid. I'll vote for the \$15 million when it comes across the board. You say it's going to cut \$5 million off of it. Alright, let's go back. Let's take my school district that I live in. They're raising the mill levy 6 1/2 mills to cover the taxes that the people couldn't pay last year, 6 1/4 mills. They tell me they're going to have to raise the mill levy 12 mills to operate the schools. Well those seven men on that board and Mr. Mussen, or whatever his name is ... Musman I think he name is, cannot operate our school, cannot operate it without increasing taxes about 25% with a 20% increase here in state aid then the best thing they can do is reanalyze. Let's go over it. Let's face it. Last year I had expenses and no income. My income was down. What did I do? Well I certainly didn't go out and increase my expenses by 30%. I cut my expenses. The first thing I did was cut out a new car that I thought I would like to have. Had I bought it it would had one thing on it that a '62 you don't put and that would have been a mortgage. I don't put that on my cars, at this age anyhow. I did when I was a kid. I'll say this, if someone wants to say 3 percent, that's going to just be a token. That's just going to say boys we were out for a cut. If you'd have saved 3% more than what I got it would have been a good thing, 13 percent. We'll find out if you really want to go ahead and spend money. Just vote down this 10%. This 10% cut is going to be offered on every budget bill, every single budget bill that comes across. You can go home and tell the people that you're not in favor of cutting taxes, that you're not in favor of saving them some money. Like I told you 22 states are going to cut expenses this year. We can go on in the same category as our federal government is. The only thing is that we don't sit down and print \$21 1/2 billion worth of new money to pay the \$20 or \$30 million that this will save. We can't sit down and print that money. That's all I have to say. Go ahead and if you see fit to vote the increase, go ahead.